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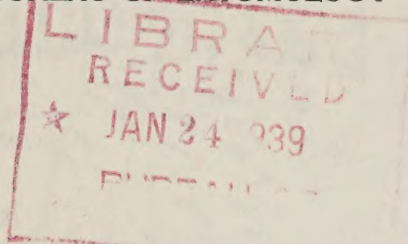
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

POST OFFICE BOX 1100  
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO



FEBRUARY REPORT OF BEET LEAFHOPPER CONDITIONS FOR TWIN FALLS, JEROME, MINIDOKA AND  
CASSIA COUNTIES OF IDAHO FOR 1934

This report gives all the available information on probable beet leafhopper ("white fly") damage during the coming spring and early summer in Twin Falls, Jerome, Minidoka and Cassia Counties, and is not applicable to other areas. Its purpose is to supply information to the individual grower on leafhopper conditions for the 1934 season. It does not take into consideration the possible unfavorable effects of spring weather on the date of the leafhopper migration or upon crop development at that time. Nor does it take into account the numerous agricultural questions to be considered in the production of a satisfactory crop.

All facts thus far available are distinctly favorable and strongly indicate the probability that leafhopper populations during the coming spring and early summer will be low. As a result, curly top (the disease resulting from white fly infestations) is not expected to be a serious factor in reducing yields of sugar beets or other susceptible crops this coming season. It should be noted that these prospects apply to the area as a whole and not to individual plantings.

Those summer and fall weather conditions which studies at the Twin Falls laboratory have shown to govern leafhopper populations through their direct and indirect effects upon the insect and its host plants have not been favorable for leafhopper populations in the spring and early summer of 1934. In addition, direct observations on the numbers of leafhoppers entering hibernation, in the breeding areas tributary to the territory considered, show that these were the lowest of which this laboratory has record. Considering the unfavorable summer and fall weather conditions, together with the small numbers of leafhoppers which entered hibernation, it is believed that the extremely mild winter just experienced will be of little importance as far as leafhopper injury this coming season is concerned.

Regardless of the present favorable outlook, no information available at this time would encourage us to advise the planting of beets in areas in close proximity to leafhopper breeding grounds.

Careful surveys made in February over the leafhopper breeding areas indicate that the western territory near Castleford, Buhl and Wendell (especially the last two) may receive moderate infestations of the leafhopper. If beets are planted in these areas it is suggested that curly-top resistant variety U. S. No. 1 be used.

Additional information obtained as the season progresses will be made available upon request.

Twin Falls, Idaho  
February 23, 1934

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